

What is claimed is:

1. A mobile communication system comprising:  
a mobile station;  
a base station disposed in each of service  
areas for performing radio communication with the mobile  
station positioned in each of service areas;  
a base station controller having channel  
station data indicative of whether there is a channel  
between a mobile switching center as a master station  
thereof and another mobile switching center, said base  
station controller having means for, when a hand-off  
control process is to be performed via said mobile  
switching center as the master station while  
communicating with said mobile terminal through said base  
station, determining whether said mobile switching center  
as the master station has a channel connected to the  
other mobile switching center or not based on said  
channel station data, and, if said mobile switching  
center as the master station has a channel connected to  
the other mobile switching center, requesting a hand-off  
control process as a process for switching communication  
channels for communication with said mobile station; and  
a mobile switching center as the master  
station of said base station controller, for performing a  
hand-off control process between itself and said other

25 mobile switching center when said hand-off control  
process is requested.

2. A mobile communication system comprising:  
a mobile station;

one or more base stations disposed in each of  
service areas for performing radio communication with the  
5 mobile station positioned in each of service areas;

one or more base station controllers serving  
as a master station of said one or more base stations and  
having channel station data indicative of whether there  
is a channel between a mobile switching center as a  
10 master station thereof and another system mobile  
switching center in another system of different  
specifications, said one or more base station controllers  
having means for, when a hand-off control process is to  
be performed via said mobile switching center as the  
15 master station while communicating with said mobile  
terminal through said base station during an inter-base-  
station-controller soft hand-off control process,  
determining whether said mobile switching center as the  
master station has a channel connected to the other  
20 system mobile switching center or not based on said  
channel station data, and, if said mobile switching  
center as the master station has a channel connected to  
the other system mobile switching center, requesting an

inter-system hand-off control process as a process for  
25 switching communication channels between said mobile  
station and said other system mobile switching center to  
said mobile switching center as the master station, and,  
if said mobile switching center as the master station  
does not have a channel connected to the other system  
30 mobile switching center, requesting an intra-system hand-  
off control process between said mobile station and the  
mobile switching center in a home system; and

one or more interconnected mobile switching  
centers serving as a master station of at least one of  
35 said one or more base station controllers, for performing  
said hand-off control process in a home system when the  
intra-system hand-off control process is requested, at  
least one of said one or more interconnected mobile  
switching centers having a communication channel  
40 connected to the other system mobile switching center,  
for performing a predetermined hand-off control process  
between itself and said other system mobile switching  
center when said inter-system hand-off control process is  
requested.

3. A mobile communication system according to  
claim 2, further comprising a communication channel  
between only a mobile switching center adjacent to a

service area of the other system including an overlay and  
5 said other system mobile switching center.

4. A mobile communication system according to  
claim 3, wherein said mobile switching center comprises  
means for, when said intra-system hand-off control  
process is requested, selecting a mobile switching center  
5 in the home system which has a communication channel  
connected to said other system mobile switching center,  
and performing a hand-off control process between itself  
and the selected mobile switching center.

5. A mobile communication system according to  
claim 2, wherein said home system comprises a mobile  
communication system according to code division multiple  
access principles.

6. A mobile communication system according to  
claim 3, wherein said home system comprises a mobile  
communication system according to code division multiple  
access principles.

7. A mobile communication system according to  
claim 4, wherein said home system comprises a mobile  
communication system according to code division multiple  
access principles.